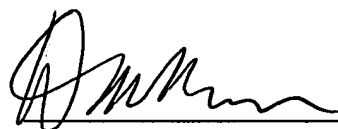


REMARKS

By the present amendment, the Abstract has been amended to remove parenthetical reference numbers and legal phraseology, in order to more closely conform to U.S. practice. The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the foregoing amendment prior to examination of the above-identified patent application.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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